

POL

27-9

BIAFRA-NIGERIA

6/6/69

STATE DEPARTMENT SYSTEMATIC REVIEW

☐ Retain classification ☐ Change/classify to _____
☒ Declassify with concurrence of _____
EO 12958, 25X
FPC/HDR by MSK Date 2/12/85

Withdrawal No. _____

0284

DECLASSIFIED
Authority VND 959503
By MW NARA Date 10/5/05

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
☐ CHARGE TO

CONFIDENTIAL

Classification

POK 27-9 BIAFRA - NIGERIA

001957

33

FOR OCIT USE ONLY

Origin

ACTION: OSLO PRIORITY

Info:

INFO: OTTAWA
ADDIS ABABA
LAGOS
US Mission GENEVA
USUN NEW YORK

STATE

REF: OSLO 2084, 2194

SUBJ: NORWEGIAN PROPOSAL FOR HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE

For Duty Officer Action ~~at~~ JUNE 7 AM.

1. ~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~ It probable Red Cross Conference will touch on Nigerian relief when it discusses roles of International Committee of Red Cross (ICRC) and League of Red Cross Societies (LICROSS). Political overtones presumably will be minimized since Red Cross rules exclude ~~introduction of~~ consideration of political issues. Such discussion might furnish logical occasion for introducing Norwegian idea of ad hoc study committee. (FYI. ICRC and LICROSS ~~are looking for some mechanism to reduce friction and~~ have signed agreement on jurisdictions and mutual cooperation which will undoubtedly be discussed at Istanbul meeting. Norwegian proposal increase cooperation between themselves. Norwegian proposal presumably would be considered in this context, if introduced. END FYI.) ~~might be useful in this respect. END FYI.)~~
2. Primary reason we saw against Red Cross conference is fact that Norwegian proposal would have to be introduced and

Drafted by:

IO/OES: S Lee / IO/UNP: EE Briggs

Tel. Ext.

7042

Telegraphic transmission and

classification approved by:

IO - Walter M. Kotschnig

Clearances:

IO/UNP - Miss Brown U/CF - Mr. Schott
IO/OES - Mr. Graham AF/W - Mr. Melbourne
EUR/SCAN - Mr. Storing

CONFIDENTIAL

Classification

FORM DS-322
8-65

0285

DECLASSIFIED

Authority

By

MM NARA Date

10/5/03

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

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~~XXXXXX~~ PAGE 2 OSLO

Info:

thereafter managed by its nongovernmental Red Cross society.

Direct GON control would be at minimum.

3. Although conference might be able to provide subsequent (and more appropriate) international forums such as UNGA with helpful suggestions based on Norwegian proposal, we wonder whether Norwegians have considered how introduction of proposal at RC conference would be related to similar initiative in next UNGA of other nations whose views closely parallel GON's, such as other SCANS and Canada. Swedes have told us informally they have been discussing with other SCANS promoting (without reference to Nigeria) study and eventual establishment of new framework or mechanism for providing international relief to victims of "man-made" disasters. How detailed a plan Norwegians might wish to present at Red Cross conference; how much coordination should take place or may already have been accomplished between them and other interested parties so that Red Cross complement proposal would complement other contemplated actions elsewhere;

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Clearances:

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By M/NARA Date 10/5/03

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Origin

~~AXXXXX~~ PAGE 3 OSLO

Info:

and whether, in view world-wide interest (and political implications) GON proposal may arouse, UNGA might not be better forum to introduce subject really are questions for GON to resolve.

4. You should emphasize to Arnesen that these views represent working level reaction in DEPT, which remains sympathetic to Norwegian concern, and appreciates Arnesen's approaches to Embassy.

GP-4

END

[ROGERS]

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Tel. Ext.

Telegraphic transmission and
classification approved by:

Clearances:

CONFIDENTIAL

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FORM DS-322
8-65

0287

DECLASSIFIED
Authority VND 959503
By MN NARA Date 10/5/03

Rem

POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
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Classification

091638

836

6 JUN 69 14 51z

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Origin

ACTION: Amembassy LIBREVILLE

Info:

INFO: Amembassy LAGOS
Amembassy PARIS
Amembassy ABIDJAN

SUBJECT: ORDER OF MALTA BIAFRAN RELIEF

REF: LIBREVILLE 543

1. Most efficient mechanism for establishing contact with US voluntary agencies is through American Council of Voluntary Agencies for Foreign Service, Inc., 200 Park Avenue South, New York, NY 10003.
2. Order of Malta presumably has normal contacts with its counterparts in other countries and US. Dept somewhat mystified at approach taken by local rep in Libreville. Believe it best that Order of Malta discuss program with US clearing house noted above.

EXEMPT

END

[ROGERS]

Drafted by:

AF/CW: WSC: km

6/5/69

Tel. Ext.
5127

Telegraphic transmission and

classification approved by:

AF/CW - William E. Schauffele, Jr.

Clearances:

AID - Mr. Howard Kresge

AF/W - Mr. Robert Smith

XXXXXX

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8-65

0288

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Authority: VMD 954503
By: MVA Date: 10/5/05

11

POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
092282

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
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46
6 JUN 69 22 22
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Origin

Info:

ACTION: Amembassy, Cotonou
Amembassy, Lagos
Amembassy, Geneva
Amembassy, The Hague
~~Amemb~~
Amembassy, London
Amembassy, Stockholm
Amembassy, Yaounde
Amembassy, Libreville
~~Amembassy, Lome~~
~~USINT-Santa Isabel~~
USINT-Santa Isabel (pouch)

Subject: Missing Relief Aircraft

All traffic this subject should be repeated to Lome, residence of
US Ambassador to Equatorial Guinea. This is especially important
June 6-9, when US Representative Williams away from Santa Isabel.

exempt.
~~XXXXXXXXXX~~

[ROGERS]

END

10

Drafted by: AF/CW: MLCook:kls 6/6/69 4323
Telegraphic transmission and classification approved by: William E. Schaufele, Jr.
Clearances: AF/W- Mr. Smith

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FORM DS-322
8-65

0289

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Authority: VIND 954543
By: MMNARA Date: 10/5/05



POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL 117

PAGE 01 GENEVA 01799 061125Z

18
ACTION SS 70

INFO OCT 01, CIAE 00, /071 W

033231

R 061041Z JUN 69
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1550
INFO AMEMBASSY COTONOU
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY LONDON

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 1799

LINDIS

STATE FOR U/CF

LONDON FOR FERGUSON

SUBJECT: NIGERIA

DURING GENERAL DISCUSSION GUTMAN/DAVIDSON WITH CHENARD (JCA/CRS REP GENEVA) HE SPOKE ABOUT POLITICAL INSTABILITY AND INSECURITY ICRC AIRLIFT BASES COTONOU/SANTA ISABEL (IN CONTRAST TO JCA'S SAO TOME BASE) AND BROUGHT UP DANGERS SABOTAGE. WHEN ASKED POINT BLANK WHAT SPECIFIC INFO HE HAD CHENARD "CONFIDENTIALLY" MENTIONED "SWEDE IN LAGOS HAD GIVEN SOME IN RE NIGERIAN TRAINING OF SABOTEURS". CHENARD ALLOWED THIS MIGHT BE ONLY PSYWARFARE.

COMMENT: LINDT'S AND CHENARD'S SOURCES ARE PROBABLY IDENTICAL AND WOULD NOT BE SURPRISED IF "CONFIDENTIAL" STORY ALL OVER LAGOS BY NOW. TUBBY

CONFIDENTIAL

GENEVA-1799
6-6-69

0290

DECLASSIFIED	
Authority	VND 959503
By	MW NARA Date 10/5/05

L I M D I S
I N C O M I N G

TOP SECRET

Screeners _____

POST Lyric

SERIAL 1799

(Time Received)

1969 JUN 6 11 10 14

DISTRIBUTION

MONTHLY COUNT **134**

Secretariat

S/S-S 1
S/S-O 1
S/S-Screener 33
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S/S-O DIR ✓
MilRep
Digest
Task Force

Principals and
"S" Area

ES ✓
S ✓
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USC

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S/R ✓
U/CF ✓
U/PW
J/PM
J/WP

Geographic

AF 5 ✓
ARA 9
EA 11
EUR 10 ✓
NEA 8

Functional

CU
E 2
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INR 6
IO 4 ✓
L 2
O 3
OPR
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SCA
VO
SCS
SCI

Other

WH 10 ✓
VP
DOD 1 ✓
CIA 1 ✓
USIA 4 ✓
PC

Other

ACDA 5
AID/EXSEC 3
AA/AFR 2
AA/VN 2
AA/EA 3
AA/NESA 2
TRSY 6
FRB
EXIM
BOB
CEA
COM 2
STR
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WHRE
AGR 3
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TRANS
CAB
AEC 3
NASA
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NIC
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File
Burned 2/10/69

0291

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Authority VND 954/503
By MM Date 10/3/05



Department of State

POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

TELEGRAM

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE 102

PAGE 01 GENEVA 01798 061119Z

19
ACTION SS 70

INFO OCT 01 CIAE 000/071 W

033183

R 061041Z JUN 69
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1549
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GENEVA 1798

LONDON FOR FERGUSON

LIMDIS

1. CHENARD CRS/JCA IN COURSE LOW-KEY MEETING EXPRESSED GREAT UNHAPPINESS "DIFFERENTIAL TREATMENT" GIVEN IN GENEVA BY USG/COORDINATOR TO ICRC AND JCA, I.E. "\$6 MILLION ANNOUNCEMENT VERSUS COURTESY CALL" ALTHOUGH HE ALLOWED PL 480 SUPPORT WAS MOST HELPFUL. CLAIMED RECENT ICRC CONTRIBUTION RELEASE RESULTED PRESS INQUIRIES HIS OFFICE AND REPORTERS' AMAZEMENT MAGNITUDE JCA ACCOMPLISHMENTS UNACCOMPANIED \$6 MILLION USG GIFTS AND PRESS FANFARE. POINTED OUT COORDINATORS BASIC MANDATE CONCERNED WITH NIGERIAN VICTIMS RELIEF ORGANIZATIONS BEING MEANS TO END. FULL APPRECIATION OF JCA MAJOR ROLE AND ACCOMPLISHMENT THIS CONTEXT. HOWEVER CHARACTER VOLUNTARY REPEAT VOLUNTARY AGENCY BY DEFINITION DIFFERENT FROM ICRC. LATTER AFFORDED IMPORTANT UMBRELLA ON FMG SIDE. CHENARD APPEARED SOMEWHAT APPEASED. HE THEN TURNED TO QUESTION ADDITIONAL PLANES, EXPRESSING SCEPTICISM EARLY RESULTS YOUR AND LINDT'S EFFORTS RE CORRIDORS. THE THOUGHT THAT EARLY DEADLINE SHOULD BE ESTABLISHED FOR THESE NEGOTIATIONS AND IF STILL NO RESULTS, USG SHOULD AGREE PROVIDE ADDITIONAL PLANES. ASSURED HIM MATTERS UNDER CONSTANT REVIEW AND USG UNDOUBTEDLY IN TOUCH JCA/NYC.

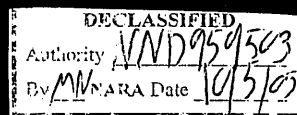
2. CHENARD WAS MOST ANXIOUS GET YOUR REPLY RE ATTENDANCE LUCERNE CONFERENCE. BELIEVE IMPORTANT U/CF BE REPRESENTED THIS MEETING PREFERABLY BY YOURSELF AS ABOVE QUESTIONS WILL CERTAINLY BE RAISED. DAVIDSON WILL SUPPLY ADDITIONAL BRIEFING. TUBBY

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27

GENEVA-1798
6-669

0292



L I M D I S
I N C O M I N G

TOP SECRET
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SERIAL 1798

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1969 JUN 6 AM 9 02

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S/S-S 1
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Digest
Task Force

Principals and
"S" Area

ES
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S/CPR
S/FW
S/GOV
S/IL
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S/PM
S/R
U/CF
U/PW
J/PM
J/WP

Geographic

AF 5
ARA 9
EA 11
EUR 10
NEA 8

Functional

CU
E 2
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INR 6
IO 4
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OPR
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SCI

Other

WH 10
VP
DOD
CIA
USIA 4
PC

Other

ACDA 5
AID/EXSEC 3
AA/AFR 2
AA/VN 2
AA/EA 3
AA/NESA 2
TRSY 6
FRB
EXIM
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CEA
COM 2
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2/10/69

0293

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Authority VND 959503
By MVA Date 10/5/05

(11)



POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

XPOL 27 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

SECRET 778

Cotonou
6-6-69

PAGE 01 COTONO 00615 061851Z

43
ACTION UCF 05

INFO OCT 01, AF 12, EUR 17, IO 13, CCO 00, SSO 00, NSCE 00, USIE 00, CIAE 00,
DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02,
SS 20, E 15, DOT 12, UPW 01, NEA 13, SCS 04, SCA 01, SR 01, ORM 03,
AID 28, RSR 01, 180 W

6/5

0 061402Z JUN 69
FM AMEMBASSY COTONOU
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2164
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USINT SANTA ISABEL

036192

SECRET COTONOU 615

CORRECTED COPY FR TEXT

FOR FERGUSON FROM DAWSON

SUBJECT: RSM - DC-7

1. ALL AIRCRAFT COTONOU AND PRESUMABLY SANTA ISABELA GROUNDED FOR NIGHT OF 6/7 JUNE. MOST CREW MEMBERS COTONOU NON-COMMITTAL ABOUT RESUMING FLYING, BUT BEST GUESS IS AT LEAST TWO C-97S AND BOTH DC-6S WOULD FLY IF CLEARED BY ICRC.

2. ICRC SOURCES CONFIRM THAT MISSING DC-7 REPORTED IT UNDER ATTACK BY HOSTILE AIRCRAFT SHORTLY BEFORE ALL CONTACT WITH SANTA ISABELA LOST.

3. FOURTH ICRC C-97 RETURNED FROM MAINTENANCE BASE TEL AVIV 0030 HOURS 6 JUNE WITH TWO ENGINES AND PROP OIL ABOARD. MAINTENANCE FAIRLY FULLY CARRIED OUT BUT SOME EVIDENCE

(2)

SECRET

0294

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Authority VMD 959503
By MM NARA Date 10/5/05



Department of State **TELEGRAM**

SECRET

PAGE 02 COTONO 00615 061851Z

INDICATES SHORTAGE OF SPARES AT TEL AVIV. KNOX

SECRET

0295

DECLASSIFIED	
Authority	VND 959503
By	MMNARA Date 10/5/05

66



POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

6-6-69 5122

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE 688

PAGE 01 LAGOS 05122 061759Z

45
ACTION AF 18

INFO OCT 01, EUR 17, IO 13, SSO 00, NSCE 00, CCO 00, USIE 00, UCF 05, UPH 01
CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, LI 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04,
RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, AID 28, SCS 04, SCA 01, SR 01, ORM 03, RSR 01,

146 W

035797

O P 061632Z JUN 69 ZFF-4.
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7021
INFO AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM PRIORITY
AMEMBASSY COTONOU
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LAGOS 5122

REF STATE 091639

SUBJ: ATTACK ON RELIEF AIRCRAFT

SEE LAGOS 5102. RECEIPT ACKNOWLEDGED DEPT 1220Z.
ALSO LAGOS 5112.
EXEMPT.
OLSON

1

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0296

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Authority VNI 2954503
By MVA Date 10/5/05

66



POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
Department of State

TELEGRAM

Page 5123
6-6-69

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE 691

PAGE 01 LAGOS 05123 061800Z

46
ACTION AF 18

INFO OCT 01, EUR 17, IO 13, UCF 05, CCO 00, CIAE 00, DODE 00, NSAE 00,
NSCE 00, SSO 00, USIE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSC 10, P 04,
RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, SCS 04, SCA 01, UPW 01, SR 01, ORM 03, AID 28,

(RSR 01) 146 W

035800

O P 061635Z JUN 69 ZFF-4
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7022
INFO AMEMBASSY COTONOU PRIORITY
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LAGOS 5123

SUBJECT: DOWNED DC-7

SWEDISH AMBASSADOR HAS RECEIVED NAMES CREW MEMBERS
DOWNED DC-7, REGISTRATION NO SE-ERP BELIEVED OWNED
BY SWEDISH RED CROSS
PILOT DIVID BROWN AMERICAN RESIDENT STOCKHOLM
CO PILOT STIG CARLSSON JACOBSSBERG SWEDEN
LOADMASTER HARRY AXELSON ALVESTA SWEDEN
LOADMASTER 2 KJELL PETTERSEN NORWEGIAN
RESIDENT COPENHAGE,
DECON 6-6-670
OLSON

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0297

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Authority	VND 959503
By	MMNARA Date 10/5/05



POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

SECRET 157

PAGE 01 GENEVA 01803 061154Z

46

ACTION AF 18

INFO OCT 01, EUR 17, IO 13, CCO 00, CIAE 00, DODE 00, NSAE 00, NSCE 00,

SSO 00, USIE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, LI 03, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02,

SS 20, SCS 04, SCA 01, SR 01, ORM 03, AID 28, UPW 01, UCF 05, RSR 01,

/146 W

033406

O 061138Z JUN 69 ZFF6
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1553
INFO AMEMBASSY COTONOU IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY LONDON

SECRET GENEVA 1803

REF: COTONOU 613, 614

LINDT REPORTS RECEIPT OF SAME INFORMATION. HE HAS ASKED NIGERIAN
GOVT THROUGH AMB KOLO IN GENEVA FOR ASSISTANCE IN DETERMINING
FACTS CONCERNING INCIDENTS AND HAS EXPRESSED DEEPEST CONCERN.
LINDT WOULD APPRECIATE ANY INFORMATION AVAILABLE FROM AMEMBASSY
LAGOS. TUBBY

SECRET

0298

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Authority VND 959503
By MN/ARA Date 10/5/05

75



POL 27-9 BIAFRA - NIGERIA

Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 01 GENEVA 01801 061126Z

16
ACTION UCF 05

INFO OCT 01, IO 13, AID 28, EUR 17, AF 12, SFW 02, SR 01, ORM 03, SCA 01,
SCS 04, RSR 01, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSA 00,
NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, UPW 01, 154 W
033246

R 061041Z JUN 69
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1552

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE GENEVA 1801

STATE FOR U/CF AND AID/NIGERIA FROM GUTMAN

SUBJECT: STOCKFISH AND MEDICAL SUPPLIES.

HAVE BEEN UNABLE GET CLEAR PICTURE OVERALL SUPPLY SITUATION HERE.
DAVIDSON AND I WILL MEET WITH JCA DEPUTY DIRECTOR ZIEGER THIS
AFTERNOON IN STUTTGART. GEISSEL OUT OF TOWN. TUBBY

GENEVA-1801
6-6-69

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0299

DECLASSIFIED
Authority VND959503
By MNA Date 10/5/05

75



POL 27-9 BIAPPA-NIGERIA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

CONFIDENTIAL III

PAGE 01 GENEVA 01800 061121Z

17
ACTION UCF 05

INFO OCT 01, IO 13, AF 12, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, HI 02, INR 07, L 03,

NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, USIA 12, AID 28, SCS 04,

SCA 01, SR 01, ORM 03, EUR 17, UPW 01, RSR 01, 152 W
----- 033205

R 061041Z JUN 69
FM USMISSION GENEVA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1551

C O N F I D E N T I A L GENEVA 1800

FOR U/CF

SUBJECT: NIGERIA RELIEF

REF: GENEVA 1776, COTONOU 608

1. LINDT MENTIONED ICRC HAD VERY SUCCESSFUL NIGHT (JUNE 4 TO 5)
WITH 18 FLIGHTS WITHOUT INTERFERENCE.

2. CHENARD JCA IN CONVERSATION GUTMAN/DAVIDSON TRIED PLAY DOWN
SUBJECT INCIDENT POINTING OUT THAT PLANE INVOLVED WAS LEAD FLIGHT
FIRST WAVE WHICH ARRIVED BEFORE NIGHTFALL. HOWEVER ATTACK
AFFECTED JCA PILOT MORALE AND CONSIDERABLY REDUCED NUMBER JUNE 3
SORTIES (DID NOT HAVE YET JUNE 4 TALLY).

3. WE RECOGNIZE VARIOUS ACCOUNTS DIFFER AND TRANSMIT ABOVE TO
ROUND OUT PICTURE. TUBBY

CONFIDENTIAL
3/

0300

DECLASSIFIED
Authority VND 954/503
By MVA/ARA Date 10/5/05

GENEVA - 1800
6-6-69

The seal of the United States Department of State, featuring an eagle with a shield, holding an olive branch and arrows, with a constellation of stars above its head. The text "DEPARTMENT OF STATE" is arched above the eagle, and "UNITED STATES OF AMERICA" is arched below it.

TELEGRAM

PAGE 01 COTONO: 00613 060848Z

INFO: OCT 01, AF 12, EUR 17, IO 13, UPW 01, CIAE 00, DODE 00, NSAE 00, NSCE 00

SSO 00,USIE 00,JPM 04,H 02,INR 07,L 03,NSC 10,P 04,RSC 01,SP 02,

SS: 20, SCS 04, SCA 01, SR 01, GRM 03, AID 28, RSR 01, 140 W
032107

O 060830Z JUN 69 ZFF-6
FM AMEMBASSY COTONOU
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 216Z
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
USMISSION GENEVA

S E C R E T COTONOU 613

FOR FERGUSON FROM DAWSON

SUBJ: RSM - ESCALATION AT ULI

REF: LAGOS 5026

10. ALTHOUGH NOT CONFIRMED IN ALL DETAILS IT APPEARS THAT NIGHT JUNE 5-6 ONE RED CROSS DC-7 FROM SANTA ISABEL WAS SHOT DOWN IN THE AIR, THAT ONE CONNIE WAS SHOT AND HIT BUT SUCCESSFULLY LANDED AND TOOK OFF AT ULI AFTERWARDS. ONE CHURCH C-97 REPORTED SHOT AT.

2. THOUGH LACKING CONFIRMATION ICRC CLOSED AIRLIFT FROM COTONOU AFTER FIRST WAVE.

3. SOURCE OF THIS INFO IS AIR CREWS, WHO NOTED DISAPPEARANCE DC-7, AND MOVEMENT CONTROL ULI PERSONNEL WHO REPORTEDLY WERE INFORMED OF ATTACKS BY ULI TOWER VIA THE FIELD LINE.

4. WILL CONFIRM AND REPORT.

GP-3. KNOX

SECRET

DECLASSIFIED
Authority VND 959/503
By MN NARA Date 10/5/05

ORIGIN/ACTION

RM/R	REP	AF
1		5
ARA	CR	FE
NEA	S/P	INR
2	1	5
E	P	IO
4	2	5
S/P	FBO	AID
1		20
SCS	SCA	S/M
AGR	COM	FRB
INT	LAB	TAR
TR	XMB	AIR
		5
ARMY	CIA	NAVY
3	20	5
OSD	USIA	NSA
34	10	3
	NSC	

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

AIRGRAM

Pol 27 9 BIAFRA
N 19 ERIC

FOR RM USE ONLY

A-214

UNCLASSIFIED

NO.

HANDLING INDICATOR

TO : Department of State

INFO : COPENHAGEN, HELSINKI, LAGOS, LONDON, REYKJAVIK, ROME, STOCKHOLM, THE HAGUE, US MISSION GENEVA.

FROM : Amembassy OSLO

DATE: June 6, 1969

SUBJECT: Ministry of Foreign Affairs Press Conference on Norwegian Assistance to Nigeria/Biafra

REF : Oslo 2134

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs announced at a May 30 press conference new Government proposals for humanitarian aid contributions to Nigeria/Biafra. The 15 million kroner* aid package consists of 3,000 metric tons of stockfish valued at 12 million kroner, 2 million kroner to defray the cost of packing and shipping the fish to a Norwegian port, and a one million kroner cash grant to the ICRC.

Enclosed is an Embassy translation of the Ministry's press release. The release notes that through April 1969 the Norwegian Government's contributions to Nigeria/Biafra in cash and kind were valued at 52.8 million kroner, while private Norwegian agencies had provided contributions valued at 21.9 million kroner.

JOE
BOVEY
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DECLASSIFICATION OF 2141E

* Par Value: 7.14 Norwegian kroner = \$1.00, i.e., 1 krone = 14 cents

FORM 4-62 DS-323

UNCLASSIFIED

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☒ In ☐ Out

Drafted by: ECON:SEFry:se 6/3/69

Contents and Classification Approved by: ECON:JEMellor *je m*

Clearances:

0302

DECLASSIFIED
Authority VND 959503
By MNARA Date 10/5/05

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A-214

Page 1
Enclosure 1

Informal Embassy Translation

Foreign Office
Press Release, May 30, 1969

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs introduced in the Cabinet meeting a proposal for new Norwegian contributions to the humanitarian relief work in Nigeria/Biafra.

Under the proposal the International Red Cross Committee will receive a cash grant of 1 million kroner*. In addition the committee will be allocated 500 tons of stockfish valued at an estimated 2.5 million kroner, of which approximately 500 thousand kroner represent payment of expenses connected with transporting the stockfish to a Norwegian port.

The (Norwegian) Church Relief will, under the same proposal be allocated 1,500 tons of stockfish valued at 7.5 million kroner, including approximately 1.5 million kroner for payment of shipping expenses to a Norwegian port, plus 1,000 tons of stockfish valued at approximately 4 million kroner, exclusive of expenses for shipment to a Norwegian port. The aggregate contributions to the Church Relief will thus run to a value of just over 11.5 million kroner.

In all, the International Red Cross Committee and the Church Relief will receive, under the proposal, 3,000 tons of stockfish valued at approximately 14 million kroner, of which some 2 million kroner represent payment of shipping expenses to a Norwegian port. In the case of earlier allocations the shipping expenses were financed by the relief organizations themselves. In addition, there is the above mentioned cash grant to the International Red Cross Committee of 1 million kroner.

The value of the governmental contributions to the humanitarian relief work in Nigeria/Biafra including the new contributions, is estimated at almost 68 million kroner.

Stating its grounds for increased contributions to the relief work, the Ministry points out that unfortunately there are few signs that the civil war is drawing to an end or that the suffering inflicted on the civilian population as a result of the military operations has been appreciably reduced, despite the impressive work which is being done by the private organizations, above all the International Red Cross Committee and the church relief organizations. Both the ICRC and the church organizations reckon that the relief work will have to continue for some time yet.

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By	MMNARA Date 10/5/05

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Page 2
Enclosure 2

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has also recommended that an official Norwegian delegation be sent to Nigeria to get a first-hand impression of the situation on both sides of the front. After consultations with the relief organizations it is the opinion of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs that there is actually no need to send a Norwegian expert delegation to Nigeria for the purpose of conducting further studies or collecting detailed information regarding the relief requirements. Norwegian authorities can, among other things, make use of the comprehensive material which has been collected by ICRC and the church relief organizations' experts. On the other hand, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs presumes that it may be useful, in view of the great interest in Norway on the situation in Nigeria, to send an official delegation which will give its members an opportunity to obtain personal impressions of the conditions in the country. In the opinion of the Ministry such a delegation should include, for example, two Storting representatives, along with representatives from the Directorate for International Development Assistance and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and from the administration of the political youth organizations, who have displayed great interest in the relief work in Nigeria. The Ministry has estimated the expenses for travel to and stay in Nigeria and Biafra for 14 days for 7 persons at 70,000 kroner.

The following data concern previous Norwegian contributions to the relief work in Nigeria/Biafra:

As early as the fall of 1967 the Government made the first grant for aid to the civilian population. By Royal Decree of October 26 1967, 100,000 kroner was granted for the Red Cross relief work, and by Royal Decree of March 15, 1968, a further 150,000 kroner was granted for this activity. On December 14, 1968, 1.2 million kroner was granted to the Norwegian Red Cross as a contribution to maintain the International Red Cross Committee airlift from Fernando Poo.

Three different Storting resolutions in 1968 authorized contributions of about 11,000 tons of stockfish free of charge to the humanitarian relief organizations. These organizations have made several requests for allocation of stockfish, which has a high priority in the relief work in Nigeria. Of the above mentioned quota, the Church Relief received 6,030 tons, the Norwegian Red Cross 2,020 tons, the International Red Cross Committee (ICRC) 300 tons, FAO 1,500 tons and UNICEF 1,167 tons. The total value of stockfish contributions was 51 million kroner. It should be noted that this aid has gone to the needy on both sides of the front.

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A-214

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Page 3
Enclosure 3

A review of governmental contributions as of April, 1969 indicates that Norway up to that time had allocated some 52.8 million kroner to relief work in Nigeria/Biafra.

The private Norwegian relief organizations' own contributions are also very substantial; Church Relief and Norwegian Red Cross contributions total 21.9 million kroner as of April, 1969.

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By	MM/ARA Date 10/5/05

POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

091730

OUTGOING TELEGRAM Department of State

INDICATE: ☐ COLLECT
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Classification

Origin

ACTION: Amembassy LAGOS IMMEDIATE

Info:

INFO: Amembassy ADDIS ABABA IMMEDIATE
COTONOU
LONDON
PARIS
STOCKHOLM
US MISSION GENEVA
USUN
CINCSTRIKE
Amconsul IBADAN
KADUNA

SUBJECT: Nigeria - Department Spokesman's Comments

REF: STATE 691729

1. In addition to ON RECORD statement reported reftel, Department spokesman added following ON BACKGROUND:

QTE To see this attack in perspective, the following factors must be borne in mind:

1. Arms flights and relief flights are intermingled. Both utilize the same major Biafran airstrip, both use similar flight patterns over Nigerian territory to reach it, and both operate only at night.

2. Thus, there is danger of confusion between the relief flights and the arms airlift, under conditions in which both the approaches and the Biafran airstrip are major military targets for Federal Nigeria. Any Nigerian attempt to intercept an arms flight runs the risk of hitting the relief planes.

Drafted by:

AF/P:RLPerkins:mb 6/6/69

Tel. Ext.
2105

Telegraphic transmission and
classification approved by:

AF/P:RLPerkins

Clearances:

P/ON - Mr. McCloskey (substance)

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ACTION: Page 2 of tel to Amembassy LAGOS

Info:

3. We have long been conscious of these dangers. We have repeatedly urged both sides to reach agreement on daylight relief flights and surface corridors. This would not only increase the flow of relief supplies into Biafra but would avoid the present and extremely dangerous comingling of relief and arms flights which led to this tragic incident. UNQTE

2. Ensuing question and answer follows in third telegram.

END

ROGERS

Drafted by:

Tel. Ext.

Telegraphic transmission and

classification approved by:

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POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
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ACTION:

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" STOCKHOLM IMMEDIATE
" COTONOU "

Info:

USMission GENEVA IMMEDIATE
INFO : Amembassy THE HAGUE

Ref: Cotonou 613

Subj: Attack on Relief Aircraft

Reftel and subsequent press items report that relief aircraft flying into Biafra were attacked June 5 by Nigerian Air Force. Would appreciate fullest possible details ASAP.

9/639

[ROGERS]

Drafted by:

AF/W:RPSmith:ba 6/6/69

Tel. Ext.

6402

Telegraphic transmission and

classification approved by: AF - Ambassador C. Robert Moore

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Info:

INFO: Amembassy ADDIS ABABA IMMEDIATE
LONDON
COTONOU
PARIS
STOCKHOLM
US MISSION GENEVA
USUN
CINGSTRIKE
Amconsul IBADAN
KADUNA

SUBJECT: Nigeria - Department Spokesman Statement

1. Dept spokesman issued following statement at noon briefing June 6:

QTE The US has learned with deep regret of the attack by the Nigerian Air Force on one and possibly more transport aircraft carrying relief supplies into Biafra. The exact number of aircraft involved and the circumstances are not yet clear. We are urgently seeking details.

The US has taken a clear position with regard to relief in the Nigerian civil war. We have drawn a sharp distinction between the political issues underlying the conflict and humanitarian relief to both sides. We have consistently avoided military and direct political involvement in the war. At the same time, however, we have played a leading role in the international effort to reduce suffering on both sides. The American people have contributed generously to this cause.

Drafted by:

AF/P:RLPerkins:mb 6/6/69

Tel. Ext.
2105

Telegraphic transmission and
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AF/P:RLPerkins

Clearances:

P/ON - Mr. McCloskey (substance)

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Origin

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Info:

We have on a number of occasions urged Nigeria to take precautions which would avoid the dangers of action against relief operations. While recognizing the problem created by the intermingling of arms flights and relief flights, the United States Government deplores this attack.

This incident underlines the urgency of alternative relief arrangements for daylight flights and surface corridors. This has been the mission of Ambassador C. Clyde Ferguson, our Special Coordinator for relief, who has been working with both sides to this end. UNQTE
2. Additional background information follows septel.

END

[ROGERS]

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Origin

ACTION: Amembassy LAGOS PRIORITY

Info:

INFO: Amembassy ADDIS ABABA PRIORITY

COTONOU

LONDON

PARIS

STOCKHOLM

US MISSION GENEVA

USUN

CINCSTRIKE

Amconsul IBADAN

KADUNA

SUBJECT: Nigeria - Department Spokesman's Question and Answer

REF: 091729

In addition statement reftel, following questions and answers at ~~noon~~
noon briefing June 6:

QTE: Q. Are we making any representations directly to the Nigerian
Government over this?

A. Well, I have said we are urgently seeking additional details. I
wouldn't rule that out.

Q. Where is Ambassador Ferguson now?

A. He is in Europe, I believe, having just been in Nigeria very recently.

Q. Do you have any reason to believe ~~we~~ he was successful to any extent
in obtaining agreement on surface corridors as one of the reasons he went back
to Nigeria?

Drafted by:

AF/P:RLPerkins:mb 6/6/69 2105

Telegraphic transmission and
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Clearances:

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Page 2 of tel to Amembassy LAGOS

Origin

Info:

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Q. Do you know offhand whether the planes used for the arms and for the relief are the same type of aircraft? I assume they are both cargo planes of some sort. But do you happen to know offhand whether they are the same?

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Origin

ACTION: Page 3 of tel to Amembassy LAGOS

Info:

A. I would rather doubt whether they are specifically the same model and make. But I think your suggestion that they are both transport is probably correct

Q. One thing I'm unclear about here is the Nigerians claim that this plane did in fact have an arms load, as I understand it. And the American position is that it is seeking details. Do you in fact know, in connection with the statement of regret, that this was not carrying arms and that it was a relief flight?

A. It is an ICRC plane and to the best of our knowledge none of these aircraft on any of their flights have ever carried arms.

Q. Do the ICRC planes have special markings on them so that this is obvious?

A. Yes.

Q. The fact, sir, the flights are at night means it would be very difficult for anyone on the ground to see the markings?

A. I think this is the problem, yes.

~~XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX~~

Q. You said in your opening statement that the US has refrained from becoming involved in any way militarily or politically. Do you mean to raise the possibility that there might be a review of whether we should become

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Info:

ACTION: Page 4 of tel to Amembassy LAGOS

involved in any way politically as a result of this incident?

A. No. I would not take, from anything I said, any indication that there would be a change in American ~~xxx~~ policy.

Q. Or that there is any review of that policy?

A. Or that there is any review of that policy. UNQTE

END

ROGERS.

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By MNARA Date 10/5/03



POC 27-9 BIAPRA-NIGERIA
Department of State
TELEGRAM

CONFIDENTIAL 082

PAGE 01 THE HA/02186 061059Z

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ACTION AF 18

INFO OCT 01, EURI 17, IO 13, AID 28, SR 01, ORM 03, SCS 04, SCA 01, UCF 05, 8

UPM 01, CTAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, HI 02, INR 07, LI 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, 6

PI 04, RSC 01, SPI 02, SS 20, USIA 12, RSR 01, 158 W
033021

RI 061000Z JUN 69
FMI AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4042
INFO USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY LAGOS

CONFIDENTIAL THE HAGUE 2186

SUBJ: NIGERIAN RELIEF--FERGUSON VISIT TO THE HAGUE, JUNE 5

1. FERGUSON HAD USEFUL DISCUSSION JUNE 5 WITH MFA'S HUYDECOPER, WHOM HE BRIEFED INTER ALIA ON: (A) STIFFENING ATTITUDES ON BOTH SIDES IN NIGERIA ON RELIEF MATTERS, (B) IMPROVED FOOD SITUATION AND ASCENDANCY OF MEDICAL PROBLEMS IN BIAFRA, (C) PLANS FOR TRIAL RUN BY LSM FROM LAGOS TO CROSS RIVER, AND (D) RECENT EXCHANGES ON POSSIBLE SITE FOR RELIEF TALKS.

2. HUYDECOPER SUGGESTED THAT, PRIOR TO NEXT MEETING OF HAGUE GROUP, MEMBER GOVTS. BE GIVEN FLAVOR OF CHANGES IN ATTITUDES IN NIGERIA AND REPORT ON IMPROVING FOOD SITUATION, PARTICULARLY LATTER SINCE IT MIGHT ALLOW SOME REDUCTION OF AIRLIFT AND RAISES QUESTION ABOUT URGENCY OF NEED FOR WATER CORRIDORS. FERGUSON AGREED CONSIDER CALLING EARLY MEETING IN WASHINGTON OF CONTRIBUTING COUNTRY AMBASSADORS.

3. IN RESPONSE TO QUERY FROM HUYDECOPER, FERGUSON AGREED PROVIDE DUTCH WITH OURS. FIGURES ON COSTS OF AIRLIFTS NOW IN OPERATION AND COMPARATIVE COSTS OF AIRLIFTS VERSUS SURFACE CORRIDORS. HUYDECOPER SAID THIS TYPE OF INFORMATION MIGHT BE USEFUL FOR NEXT HAGUE GROUP MEETING. HE THOUGHT EVIDENCE OF RISING COSTS OF AIRLIFTS MIGHT BE USED TO ENCOURAGE CLOSER JCA COOPERATION WITH ICRC. HUYDECOPER AND PARLIAMENTARIANS (PARA 5) WOULD ALSO

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PAGE 02 THE HA 02186 061059Z

APPRECIATE COPIES OF OJUKWU SPEECH OF JUNE 1 IF THESE RECEIVED IN DEPARTMENT.

4. HUYDECOPER AND FERGUSON AGREED TO SHOOT FOR MORNING JUNE 23 AS DATE FOR NEXT HAGUE GROUP MEETING, WITH JUNE 16 OR 17 AS ALTERNATIVES (ALBEIT LESS DESIRABLE, SINCE LINDT WOULD NOT BE AVAILABLE THEN). HUYDECOPER NOTED SWEDES HAD BEEN UNHAPPY CANCELLATION OF JUNE 5 MEETING, WHICH SWEDISH FONMIN HAD HOPED WOULD STRENGTHEN HIS HAND WITH PARLIAMENT. (FINAL DETERMINATION OF DATE FOR NEXT MEETING WILL DEPEND IN LARGE MEASURE ON BALANCING OF ITALIAN DESIRE POSTPONE MEETING UNTIL BIAFRANS RELEASE OIL WORKERS AND SCANDINAVIAN INTEREST IN HOLDING MEETING SOON.)

5. FERGUSON ALSO GAVE OFF-THE-RECORD BRIEFING ON GENERAL RELIEF PICTURE TO PARLIAMENTARY LEADERS OF D'66 PARTY, WHO IN FOREFRONT OF THOSE PRESSURING GON TO DO MORE ABOUT RELIEF FOR BIAFRA AND ABOUT SEEKING POLITICAL SETTLEMENT (E.G., VIA EMISSAIES TO NIGERIA OR VIA U.N.). BRIEFING WAS CLEARLY APPRECIATED AND HOPEFULLY WILL HELP CHANNEL PARLIAMENTARY ENERGIES IN RIGHT DIRECTION.

6. THIRD SESSION OF DAY WAS WITH DR. HOLM, DIRECTOR OF INTERNATIONAL UNION AGAINST TUBERCULOSIS, WHO FLEW IN FROM HIS OFFICE IN PARIS TO URGE U.S. PROVIDE GRANT TO UNION FOR TB PROGRAM FOR ALL NIGERIA, IDEALLY AS LEAD TO EVENTUAL WIDER EFFORT IN BLACK AFRICA. (HE NOTED UNION IS ALSO ABOUT BEGIN PROGRAM IN GHANA.) HOLM PROVIDED FERGUSON WITH COPY OF JANUARY 1968 STUDY ENTITLED "PROJECT FOR INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE TO TB PROGRAMS IN AFRICA", WHICH DESCRIBES UNION'S "LOW-COST APPROACH" TO PROBLEM AND WHICH HE SAID HAD RECEIVED FAVORABLE ATTENTION IN AID LAST YEAR. FERGUSON EXPRESSED INTEREST, BUT EXPLAINED OUR DESIRE FOCUS ON EMERGENCY PROGRAM FOR EASTERN REGION. HOLM WILL DISCUSS SUBJECT WITH LINDT IN GENEVA ON JUNE 6 AND IS WILLING TRAVEL TO WASHINGTON THIS MONTH FOR FURTHER TALKS.

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POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 01 COTONO 00614 061037Z

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ACTION UCF 05

INFO OCT 01, AF 12, EUR 17, IO 13, UPW 01, CIAE 00, DODE 00, NSAE 00, NSCE 00,
SSO 00, USIE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, LI 03, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02,

SS 20, SCS 04, SCA 01, SR 01, ORM 03, AID 28, RSR 01, CCO 00, 140 W
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O 060930Z JUN 69 ZFF-6
FM AMEMBASSY COTONOU
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2163.
INFO AMEMBASSY LAGOS IMMEDIATE
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
USINT SANTA ISABEL

SECRET COTONOU 614

FOR FERGUSON FROM DAWSON

SUBJECT: RSM - DC-7

REF: COTONOU 613

1. SANTA ISABEL HAS CONFIRMED TO COTONOU DISAPPEARANCE RED CROSS DC-7 FROM SANTA ISABEL NIGHT 5/6 JUNE.

2. ONE AMERICAN, DAVID BROWN, AIRCRAFT COMMANDER, REPORTED ON AIRCRAFT. PLEASE DO NOT RELEASE NAME UNTIL RED CROSS ANNOUNCEMENT.

3. LINDT IN GENEVA JUST INFORMED BY PHONE. EXPECT HE WILL BE ARRIVING SOONEST.

4. FOR U/CF. SUGGEST CONTACT WITH CHURCHES TRY TO ASCERTAIN CONDITION THEIR AIRCRAFT. KNOX

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By M/NARA Date 10/5/03

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POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

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ACTION AF 18

INFO OCT 01, EUR 17, IO 13, SSO 00, NSCE 00, CCO 00, USIE 00, UCF 05, UPW 01,

CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04,

RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, SR 01, ORM 03, SCS 04, SCA 01, AID 28, ACDA 16,

RSR 01, /162 W

033560

O 061120Z JUN 69 ZFF-3
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7013
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY COTONOU
USMISSION GENEVA
USINT SANTA ISABEL

SECRET LAGOS 5102

REF: COTONOU 613 AND 614; LAGOS 5026

LONDON FOR FERGUSON

1. IMMEDIATELY UPON RECEIPT COTONOU 613 REPORTING POSSIBLE SHOOTING DOWN ICRC DC-7, I REQUESTED APPOINTMENT WITH ARIKPO. I WAS ABLE TO SEE HIM AT ONCE TOGETHER WITH ENAHORO. I REMINDED HIM OF OUR MEETING WITH GEN. GOWON ON JUNE 3 IN WHICH GOWON STATED THERE WAS NO POLICY CHANGE WHICH MIGHT LEAD TO RELIEF PLANES BEING ATTACKED IN THE AIR AND HIS STATEMENT THAT IF THERE WAS TO BE A CHANGE IN POLICY HE WOULD NOTIFY ALL PARTIES CONCERNED PRIOR TO INITIATION ANY NEW ACTION AGAINST RELIEF AIRCRAFT. ARIKPO WAS THEN INFORMED WE HAD REPORTS AS YET UNCONFIRMED THAT AN ICRC DC-7 MAY HAVE BEEN SHOT DOWN AND TWO OTHER PLANES ATTACKED. BOTH ARIKPO AND ENAHORO VISIBLY UPSET. ARIKPO SAID HE WOULD CONTACT GOWON AT ONCE AND WOULD LET ME KNOW RESULTS. ARIKPO CONFIRMED THAT GOWON HAD GIVEN STRICT ORDERS PLANES WERE NOT TO BE ATTACKED IN AIR.

2. COTONOU 614 ARRIVED IN MEANTIME, AND I HAVE CONFIRMED TO

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Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 02 LAGOS 05102 061221Z

ENAHORO THAT ICRC DC-7 FROM SANTA ISABEL MISSING.

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OLSON

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By	MV NARA Date 10/5/05

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POL 27-9 BIAFRA-NIGERIA

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LAGOS 5112
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CONFIDENTIAL 552

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ACTION AF 18

INFO OCT 01, EUR 17, IO 13, SSO 00, NSCE 00, CCO 00, USIE 00, UCF 05, SCS 04,
SCA 01, SR 01, ORM 03, UPW 01, AID 28, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02,
INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, ACDA 16,

RSR 01, /162 W

035335

O 061430Z JUN 69 ZFF-6
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7018
INFO AMEMBASSY ACCRA IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN
AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA
AMEMBASSY COTONOU
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY LISBON
AMEMBASSY ROME
USINT SANTA ISABEL
AMCONSUL IBADAN
AMCONSUL KADUNA
DIA
CINCSTRIKE/CINCMEAFSA
DA

CONFIDENTIAL LAGOS 5112

JOINT EMBASSY/DATT MESSAGE

DIA FOR DIACO
DA FOR ACSI

1. BRIG EKPO, COFS, (PROTECT), SUPREME HQ, CONFIRMED
TO DATT THAT NAF SHOT DOWN DC-7 NIGHT 5-6 JUNE IN
VICINITY EKET (0439N 0755E). TWO CREW MEMBERS
PARACHUTED AND NOW IN CUSTODY OF FED MILITARY AT UYO.

CONFIDENTIAL

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0320

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By	MV NARA Date 10/5/05



Department of State

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PAGE 02 LAGOS 05112 061654Z

BOTH SAFE; PHYSICAL CONDITION UNKNOWN. LAGOS HAS INSTRUCTED MILITARY TO HANDLE WITH CARE AND TO RETURN BOTH TO LAGOS. EXPECTED TO ARRIVE LAGOS JUNE 7.

2. SOURCE STATED ORDER TO INTERDICT AIRCRAFT STILL IN EFFECT. HE STATED OBJ IS TO INTERDICT ARMS FLIGHT BUT NAF UNABLE TO DISTINGUISH BETWEEN ARMS/RELIEF FLIGHTS.

3. NO OTHER DETAILS KNOWN AT THIS TIME.

4. COMMENT: BELIEVE THAT FMG NOW CONVINCED KEY TO MILITARY SUCCESS IN CRISIS IS CLOSING OF AERIAL RESUPPLY TO REBELS. STRONGLY RECOMMEND RELIEF AGENCIES CEASE RELIEF FLIGHTS UNTIL FMG POSITION CLARIFIED.
GP-3 OLSON

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0321

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Authority	VND959503
By	MMNARA
Date	10/5/05



POL 27-9 BIAFRA - NIGERIA
Department of State **TELEGRAM**

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PAGE 01 LAGOS 05121 061753Z

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ACTION AF 18

INFO OCT 01, EUR 17, IO 13, SSO 00, NSCE 00, CCO 00, USIE 00, SCS 04, SCA 01

UCF 05, SR 01, ORM 03, UPW 01, AID 28, CIAE 00, DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02,

INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02, SS 20, RSR 01, 146 W
035731

0 061620Z JUN 69 ZFF-6.
FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7020
INFO AMEMBASSY COTONOU IMMEDIATE
AMEMBASSY LONDON
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
USINT SANTA ISABEL

C O N F I D E N T I A L LAGOS 5121

REF LAGOS 5112

SUBJ: DOWNED DC-7

1. I CALLED ENAHORO EXTAFF TO REQUEST INFORMATION ON NAMES AND NATIONALITIES DC-7 CREW REPORTED CAPTURED UYO. ENAHORO DID NOT HAVE THIS INFORMATION BUT SAID WOULD INVESTIGATE. HE HAS JUST CALLED BACK TO SAY THAT BRIG. EKPO HAD INFORMATION BOTH SURVIVORS WERE AMERICAN BUT THIS NOT CONFIRMED. SUGGEST THIS INFORMATION BE CLOSELY HELD UNTIL VERIFIED.
2. IN COURSE CONVERSATION ENAHORO REMARKED HE ANTICIPATED NO RPT NO DIFFICULTY IN EFFECTING RELEASE OF CAPTURED CREW SINCE THEY FLYING FOR ICRC WHICH PERMITTED TO OPERATE BY FMG "AT THEIR OWN RISK". HE SUGGESTED IT MIGHT BE A DIFFERENT MATTER HAD PLANE BEEN JCA AS "THEY OPERATING ILLEGALLY". HE PROMISED TO NOTIFY ME AS SOON AS HE HAD INFORMATION ON NAMES AND NATIONALITY.

3. NIGERIAN MININFO HAS ISSUED FOLLOWING PRESS RELEASE:

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"REBEL DC 6 AIRCRAFT DESTROYED. YESTERDAY JUNE 5 1969.
THE NIGERIAN AIR FORCE INTERCEPTED A REBEL AIRCRAFT
OVER EKET IN THE SOUTH EAST STATE AND DESTROYED IT.
IT WAS A DC 6 AIRCRAFT FLYING INTO ULI IHIALA AIRSTRIP.
THE PILOTS WHO WERE SEEN BAILING OUT HAVE BEEN CAPTURED
AT UYO."
GP-3.
OLSON

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By	MV NARA Date 10/5/05



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Pol 27-9 Biafra - Nigeria

SECRET 150

PAGE 01 LONDON 04404 061147Z

44.

ACTION AF 07

INFO OCT 01, EUR 08, IO 03, UCF 05, SSO 00, RSR 01, RSC 01, /026 W
..... 033376

O 061133Z JUN 69
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO AMEMBASSY COTONOU IMMEDIATE
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 869
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY LAGOS

S E C R E T LONDON 4404

FOR AMBASSADOR FROM FERGUSON

REQUIRE DAWSON REMAIN AT COTONOU PENDING FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS.
UNDER NO CIRCUMSTANCES SHOULD DAWSON USE AIRLIFT TO ULI.
ANNENBERG

*London - 4404
6-6-69*

SECRET

26

0324

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Pol 27-9 Biafra-Nigeria

SECRET 640

PAGE 01 LONDON 04432 061738Z

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ACTION AF 18

INFO OCT 01, EUR 17, IO 13, UCF 05, SSO 00, NSCE 00, CCO 00, USIE 00, CIAE 00,
DODE 00, JPM 04, H 02, INR 07, L 03, NSAE 00, NSC 10, P 04, RSC 01, SP 02,
SS 20, SR 01, ORM 03, SCA 01, SCS 04, AID 28, UPW 01, RSR 01, /146 W 035620

O P 061652Z JUN 69
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE IMMEDIATE 887
INFO AMEMBASSY COTONOU PRIORITY
USMISSION GENEVA
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY LAGOS

S E C R E T LONDON 4432

SUBJECT: FERGUSON APPROACH TO BRITISH ON SHOOTING DOWN OF
ICRC PLANE

1. IN ABSENCE OF PARLIAMENTARY UNDERSECRETARY MAURICE FOLEY WHO IN WEST AFRICA, RELIEF COORDINATOR FERGUSON THIS AFTERNOON (JUNE 6) SAW FONOFF'S SIR LESLIE MONSON (DEPUTY UNDERSECTY). JOHN WILSON (HEAD WEST AFRICAN DEPT) AND BRIAN BARDER AND URGED BRITISH TO TAKE PROMPT STEPS TO BRING HOME TO FMG STRONG REACTION CERTAIN TO BE PRODUCED IN WORLD PUBLIC OPINION BY SHOOTING DOWN ICRC RELIEF PLANE. IT WOULD ALSO BE USEFUL FOR BRITISH TO ENCOURAGE FMG TO REPAIR DAMAGE DONE TO SOME EXTENT BY MAKING PROMPT PUBLIC STATEMENT THAT NIGERIANS AGREED COMPLETELY WITH NEED FOR CROSS RIVER SURFACE ROUTE FOR RELIEF SUPPLIES AND WERE WILLING TO MEET WITH REPRESENTATIVES OF OTHER SIDE TO GET RELIEF OPERATION UNDER WAY.

① 2. SIR LESLIE SAID BRITISH SHARED OUR CONCERN ABOUT ATTACK ON RELIEF PLANES AND HAD ALREADY INSTRUCTED BRITISH HIGH COM LAGOS TO URGE FMG GIVE FULL COOPERATION TO ICRC, AS LINDT WAS REQUESTING, TO ASCERTAIN FACTS OF CASE. MONSON AND WILSON READILY AGREED WITH FERGUSON ON NEED FOR FOLLOWUP MESSAGE RE NIGERIAN AGREEMENT TO SURFACE ROUTE AND WILLINGNESS TO TALK WITH BIAFRANS. WILSON SAID HE EXPECTED CONSIDERABLE PUBLIC COMMENT

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IN BRITAIN AND WITH PARLIAMENT RESUMING BUSINESS JUNE 9.
PRESSURES ON GOV'T WERE LIKELY TO BE INTENSE.

3. FERGUSON THEN BRIEFED BRITISH OFFICIALS ON HIS VISITS TO NIGERIA AND BIAFRA AND EXPRESSED HIS DEEP CONCERN ABOUT EVIDENCE OF HARDENING ATTITUDE ON BOTH SIDES. BRITISH AGREED THAT WE ENTERING DANGEROUS PERIOD AND ASSURED FERGUSON THAT THEY WISHED TO REMAIN IN CLOSE TOUCH ON ALL DEVELOPMENTS AND WERE ANXIOUS TO BE HELPFUL IN KEEPING FMG'S ATTITUDE ON RELIEF AND RELATED MATTERS AS FLEXIBLE AS POSSIBLE. ANNENBERG

SECRET

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